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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/874,098	06/04/2001	Wei William Wu	5043P010	6034
8791	7590	01/03/2007	EXAMINER	
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN			SAM, PHIRIN	
12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
SEVENTH FLOOR			2616	
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030				
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		01/03/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/874,098	WU ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Phirin Sam	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 February 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

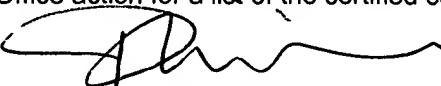
Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 04 June 2006 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.



PHIRIN SAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 10, the limitation, “machine” is indefinite. The instructions should be executed either by CPU, processor, or microprocessor.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-5 and 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,332,198 (hereinafter referred as “Simons”).

Regarding claims 1, 2, 5, 10, 11, and 14, Simons discloses a method comprising:

- (a) fixing a logical identifier for a signal line at an egress interface (see Figs. 9 and 30, col. 15, lines 24-30);

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- (b) mapping a first physical identifier for a first physical signal line to the logical identifier (see Figs. 9 and 30, col. 15, lines 50-53);
- (c) remapping a second physical identifier for a second physical signal line to the logical identifier responsive to a line failure on the first physical signal line (see Figs. 9 and 30, col. 5, lines 1-15).

Regarding claims 3 and 12, Simons discloses the method further comprising switching a signal from a second physical signal line to a physical line corresponding to the logical identifier responsive to the remapping (see Figs. 35a and 35b, col. 45, lines 42-67).

Regarding claims 4 and 13, Simons discloses fixing comprises:

- (a) assigning an identifier to each port of the egress interface during initialization (see Fig. 9, col. 5, lines 1-15, and col. 15, lines 24-37);
- (b) preventing change to the identifier after initialization (see Fig. 9, col. 15, lines 38-49).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later

invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

7. Claims 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 7,130,276 (hereinafter referred as "Chen") in view of US Patent 6,606,302 (hereinafter referred as "Delattre").

Regarding claims 6-9, Chen discloses an apparatus comprising:

- (a) a bus interface (see Fig. 2);
- (b) An egress time slot interchange (ETSI) module (see Fig. 2, element 220, col. 3, lines 55-65);
- (c) a switch fabric coupled to the ETSI module (see Figs. 1 and 2, element 140, col. 3, lines 40-45, and col. 6, lines 6-7);
- (d) an egress time slot interchange (ETSI) module having a plurality of inputs, each input assigned a logical identifier which remains fixed after initialization (see Fig. 2, elements 225 and 260-264, col. 4, lines 24-30);

Chen does not disclose a translation module to translate an incoming signal identifier to one of the logical identifiers independent of a physical line on which the signal is received. However, Delattre discloses the translation module to translate the incoming signal identifier to one of the logical identifiers independent of the physical line on which the signal is received (see col. 4, lines 38-50). At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the translation module to translate the incoming signal identifier to one of the logical identifiers independent of the physical line on which the signal is received teaching by Delattre with Chen. The motivation for doing so would have been to

provide to control the flow within the switch read column 7, line 67. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Delattre and Chen to obtain the invention as specified in the claims 6-9.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

(1) US Patent 6,976,103 (Watanabe et al) discloses data migration method using storage area network.

(2) US Patent 6,816,489 (Patra et al) discloses efficient method for packet switching on ATM switch based platforms.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phirin Sam whose telephone number is (571) 272-3082. The examiner can normally be reached on a compress schedule, from 8:00-5:30, first Wed off.

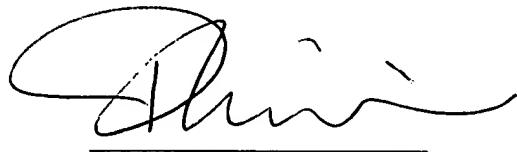
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin can be reached on (571) 272 - 3134. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 26, 2006



PHIRIN SAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER